51-II (1)

DENTIAL.

Collection No. 168 B 37-3

Year 1937 —1938. D-2?

CB.93-37—159, 160, 163, 165—

B June 1938

Branch.

SUBJECT .... Congress activities of the Mining and Sanitary Board areas.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REF

WD 1915—GPB—500—24-2-30

CB. 2763 \

(1)

General and Revenue Secretariat | File No. of 193 . | [App. F. III–2

Serial No.

Confidential D. O. letter dated the 2nd June 1938 from the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

Brings to the notice of Government the proceedings of the meeting held in the village of Parandapalli, outside the mining area on 30th May 1938, at which Messrs. K. Changalaraya Reddy and N.C.Thimma Reddy spoke to a congregation of about 1,000 people, and solicits instructions in the matter of further course of action to be taken, consistently with the conditions prevalining in that area.

Subm for perusal. The DC has also seen the Number.

I Member HTM 2.6.38.

I have asked the D.C. to watch the situation carefully - He will also send for the local men including Mr. K C Reddy & warn them of the consequences - If they are amenable to reason, necessary measures will have to be taken -

(NOTE)

JPR 2/6

Dewan HTM 3/6.38

Yes, he must exclude him from this area. MV 3-6-38

HTM 4/6

NOTE—Contn. Sheet.

Subd Mudaliar
HTM 4/6

(2) V 2463/38

File No. of 193

General and Revenue Secretariat

Serial No.

Draft DO to Dy. Com. Kolar. Subd

from 6/6 Inder Secy

Prepare as instructed

Chief Secy) 6/6

I I. Secy) 6/6

6/6

for 6/6

6/6

No 4103 dated 8/6/38

The Dy. Com. Kolar.

Enquiries whether he sent for Messrs K. Changalaraya Reddy & Thimma Reddy & other local men and advised them not to extend their activities or make any speeches in the Kgf. Area and that if they persist, he may take necessary steps to exclude them from the said Area in case the situation so requires it.

Sd/-

CHIEF SECRETARY
- 6 JUN 19
GOVT. OF MYSORE

CONFIDENTIAL

CS 93-37-159(1)

G.Sundara Rao, Esq., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District,

Camp, Bangalore, June 2, 1938.

Dear Sir,

I am forwarding with this letter a detailed report of the District Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, of a Congress meeting held in the village of Parandapalli, outside the mining area at about 6 P.M. on 30th May 1938 at which Messrs: K. Changalaraya Reddi and N.C. Thimma Reddi spoke to a congregation of about 1,000 people consisting of coolies, maistries, mining officials and some merchants. Copies of their speeches are also enclosed.

From the tone of their speeches it is evident that the Mysore Congress is anxious to inflame the minds of the labour population in this area. Mr. Thimma Reddy has actually threatened to break any prohibitory order that may be passed by the authorities for any future meeting that may be held in the mining area. The population of the mining area is predominently foreign and consists of coolies who act largely on impulse. There has been practically no congress activities in this area before this. New ideas of this kind, however laudable, are difficult of comprehension by the class of people of this area. Messrs: K. Changalaraya Reddi and Thimma Reddy are practically strangers to the cooly population and are unable even to speak to them in tamil. Previous experience of strikes in this area shows that the labouring class very easily turn to acts of violence and mischief against property and person. It will therefore be necessary for me to consider deliberately as to what the consequence of such propaganda may be in a highly inflamable area like Kolar Gold Fields. No doubt the Government have recently

recently withdrawn all prohibitory orders and let off all political prisoners. But if a fresh situation like this is created by the congress party, I think that my discretion may not be bound by the general policy pursued by the Government recently. I have a duty, as District Magistrate, to maintain Law and Order in this area by preventive as well as other measures. As far as possible, I will try to negotiate with the organisers of the meetings and the speakers to prevent them from touching this area. If I fail in my attempts, I will have regretfully to use powers vested in me and my subordinate magistrates under the Criminal Procedure Code, Police Act, and Special Powers under Section 17 of the Mysore Mining Regulation. I feel that unless action is taken at the very inception to prevent possible trouble that may arise from these activities, it will be very difficult to deal with them later. I have information that a meeting is going to be held again on 6-6-38 in the mining area and I have asked the District Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields to verify if it is true. I will deal with the situation to the best of my discretion when it arises. I shall be thankful for any instruction on this important matter from Government regarding the course of action to be taken.

I have formally met the Superintendents of the four Mines and advised them to keep an eye on their subordinates and the labourers. I have also advised them to launch a quiet propaganda in favour of peace and tranquility. I have requested them to translate the Dewan's speech into tamil with the portions relating to the labourers in big type for being distributed in their lines as a first step in this propaganda.

I have apprised the Inspector General of Police of the situation and taken his advice on the mobilisation of forces etc. in case of trouble.

Yours sincerely,

H.V. Ramasvami, Esq., M.A., B.L.,
Offg. Chief Secy. to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

WD 01173—GPB—20,000—19-11-36

Form No. 21]

MYSORE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

In reply, please quote number, date and short title.*

Received.....*Registered*.....

From (Name) C.I. Machia, Esq., B.A.,

(Designation) Spl. Superintendent of Police,

Post Box....., (STATION).....Kolar Gold Fields.

Telegraphic Address.....

To

The Deputy Commissioner,

Kolar District, Kolar.

C.C. *No.* 80/37-38., *dated* 31st May .....*1938* .

SIR,

ENCLOSURES .....

.....7.....

.....

SPARE COPIES.....

I have the honor to state that as per notices printed at the Shanmugam Printing Works, Bowringpet, announcing that a Congress meeting will be held near the Rice Mill of Mr. S.L. Gangiah at Robertsonpet, Messrs. K. Chengalraya Reddy, N.C. Thimmareddy, Pattabhiraman and Adinarayana Chetty, arrived at Robertsonpet, at about 4-15 p.m. on the 30th May 1938.

As Mr. Gangiah had refused permission to allow the meeting to be held on his land, the Organiser of the meeting one K. Munisamy Reddy led the party towards Parandapally, where the meeting was held among the rocks. People who intended to go to the meeting were directed towards Parandapally by the Volunteers, clad in Khadder and carrying Congress flags. The audience is estimated at just over a thousand and was composed of mostly mining coolies, Indian Officials of the Mining Company, Merchants, Farmers and Students.

The proceedings were opened by one Chinniah of Dharwar who recited a poem on the past and the present history of Mysore and degeneration of the people owing to the aping of the Western methods.

Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddy then spoke in Telugu. One Narayanaswamy of Robertsonpet interpreted the speech in Tamil. Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddy regretted that the

the meeting could not be held at Robertsonpet as originally intended, as he had been informed that if the meeting was held at Robertsonpet, the Government might take objection. It would have been better to have the meeting conducted at Robertsonpet, but owing to the recent compromise between the Government and the Congress, it was thought inadvisable to do anything that might be misunderstood. Hence-forward, the meeting would be held in the Mining area and appealed to the coolies to help them towards this end and expressed his inability to say what might happen in the future if the Government continued its objection.

The object of the meeting was to make the Public aware of the unhappy incident of the Viduraswatha.

Another important object was their desire to help the cooly population of Kolar Gold Fields. This could be only done after the formation of Labour Union. Congress had undertaken to give relief to the coolies and to redress their grievances. Labour Unions have been established in British India and it was necessary that Mysore, Bangalore and Kolar Gold Fields should follow suit. Mr. Giri the present Labour Minister of Madras had tried in the previous years to establish Labour Unions in Kolar Gold Fields; but had failed, as the Government did not permit him. They could not wait any longer. The Congress was getting stronger every day and he would fight with the Government to permit him to open a Labour Union in the Kolar Gold Fields proper. He had heard that there had been many Strikes in Kolar Gold Fields and he advised the people that if there should be a Strike, it should be of a non-violent nature.

He then referred to the low wages of the Coolies and their degrading position. In Madras, the Congress Ministers had succeeded in stamping out the Liquor Shops in Salem District and they were extending the Prohibition Act to Chittoor and Cuddapah Districts. It was also the intention of the Mysore Congress to introduce prohibition into the State. He appealed to the public to give up drinking.

He then spoke about the indebtedness of the labourers in the Field. This was mainly due to the fact that they borrowed money from the Marwadis at exorbitant rates of interest, evidently with the object of spending the money on drink. The Government had appointed a Committee to enquire into the usurious rate of interest in existence, but the Committee had come to no definite conclusion. A lot of women were without work and it was necessary that the old home industry "Charaka" should be revived. The Mysoreans have to follow Madras and Bombay in having Swaraj and the Congress party was always ready to help them in this direction.

He regretted that though they were paying very heavy Land revenue, they were not getting full benefit out of it. There were no Schools and Hospitals in many of the Villages. Land Revenue Assessment had been very heavy in Mysore, especially in Kolar District. The people living in the Cities enjoyed more comfort and benefit than those in the villages, even though the former are paying less. All these grievances would be redressed if the people joined the Congress

Mr. Thimmareddy then spoke in Kanada. He said that some people informed him that the Government would take action under Section 39 of the Police Act, if he should speak at Robertsonpet. Personally he was not afraid of anything. But he had to follow the advice of Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddy. Continuing he said, that in British India the people have been agitating for the last 48 to 50 years

and yet they had not obtained full freedom, whereas in Mysore they had achieved more within a short period of 7 or 8 months. This showed the strength of the Congress. He narrated the incidents of Viduraswatha and said that even the women were pelting stones on the Police and the Deputy Commissioner. He expressed his admiration to hear about these courageous women.

In his younger days, he had been told that the Mysoreans had no brains and no spirit of enterprise, as a result of which they had given away the Gold Fields on lease to the British to extract Gold. 98% of the gold was being exported from Mysore, while the Government got only 2% as Royalty. The lease terminated in 1934, but the Government renewed the lease without consulting the Representative Assembly. He then referred to the low wages paid to the Coolies, who were shedding their blood and working at the risk of their life. The Share holders in London were enjoying at the cost of the Coolies. When the Congress come into power, he assured the labourers that they would get double the wages they were getting now. Mysoreans were capable of working the Mines and he failed to see why foreigners should continue to have a control on the Mines. He felt it was a disgrace. To rectify the matter a Labour Organization was necessary. The Coolies should unite and fight peacefully. He advised the Coolies against going on Strike and to work with unity and strength.

After the speech was over, one Krishnappa presented a purse collected from the public towards the Viduraswatha Relief Fund.

The meeting terminated at about 6-20 p.m.

It may be mentioned here that no orders of prohibiting the meeting at Robertsonpet was issued. Over 600 Mining Coolies and Maistries attended the

the meeting. Information regarding the antecedents and history of the organisers and supporters of the meeting are being collected.

A list of prominent persons who attended the meeting is also enclosed..

A copy of the Stenographer's report is also enclosed for kind perusal.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

DSR/-

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List of prominent persons who attended the Congress meeting held at K.G.F. on 30-5-1938.

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Messrs.

1. K. Munisamy Reddy of Goodpally.
2. Anjanappa of Peddapalli - presented garlands.
3. Raghava Reddy, Pleader, Robertsonpet.
4. Venkatarama Reddy, brother of Chengalaraya Reddy.
5. Girivasiah, Pleader, Robertsonpet.
6. Sankaranarayana, Pleader.
7. Ramiah Setty, Bowringpet.
8. Keseva Aya.
9. O.V. Rajagopal, Contractor, Robertsonpet.
10. Gopal Krishna Chetty, Mysore Press, Robertsonpet.
11. A.Y. Devanasan, Champion Reef.
12. V.T. Iyengar, Committee Office, Oorgaum.
13. Narasimhalu Naidu, Champion Reef.
14. Ramaswamy Naidu, Champion Reef.
15. Sriramalu Naidu, Champion Reef.
16. K. Munisamy @ Murihari, Champion Reef.
17. Nemichand, Marwadi, Robertsonpet.
18. Raola, Marwadi, Robertsonpet.
19. Sundaresh Mudaliar, Typist, Oorgaum Office.
20. Papiah Chetty s/o Venkatesa Chetty, Robertsonpet.
21. Krishna Moorthy, Teacher, Robertsonpet.

Spl. Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Fields.

Proceedings of the Public meeting held at the Maidan beyond Parandapally (out of the Sanitary Board area) Robertsonpet, Kolar Gold Fields, on Monday the 30th May 1938.

-*-

The meeting commenced at about 5-10 p.m. after National songs and lavanies by one Channiah @ Basaviah. About thousand people including about half a dozen ladies attended the meeting.

Mr. K. Changalraya Reddy spoke in Telegu to the following effect. One Narayanaswamy Reddy translated into Tamil.

"Ladies and gentleman, I request you to kindly let me know in what language I have to address you now. There are some who know Kannada, some Telegu and some Tamil. (some of the persons shouted in Tamil). I cannot talk in Tamil, so I request my friends to translate it into Tamil. To-day's meeting is a very strange one because there were some doubts as to the place of the meeting. Formerly we had decided to conduct this meeting near Gangiah's Mill. Later it was changed. We would not have visited this place but for the collection of some funds for the families of the injured and dead persons at the unhappy incident that took place at Viduraswatha, Kolar District. At the request of some local people we have to come here to deliver this lecture in the Kolar Gold Field area. We would have conducted the meeting in the place fixed formerly but for the understanding of the Congress and the Government which is going on at present. I think some of you might have known about this. In the interest of the both parties, Congress and Government, I avoided the place fixed formerly. Government perhaps, are under the impression that there would be some breach of peace if the same meeting had been conducted in the Mines area and so might have issued some prohibitory order. Let not the Government have that fear or anxiety. We also were under dilemma whether to break the order or to obey if such orders had been issued in view of the present juncture. But we cannot conduct such meetings at this place here after and we have definitely come to the conclusion that we should conduct in the Mining area by giving vide publicity to the Government as well as to the people. Let not the Govt:

apprehend any breach of peace or of the peoples excitement because we are strictly following the advise given to us by Mahatma Gandhi NON VICLENCE. In all such occasions we should not loose our patience. If we follow the cult of Non-Violence we will surely succeed in conducting future meetings in the Mining area alone. I see before me different classes of people - boys from Schools, Villagers from sourrounding villages, Merchants, literates and Mines coolies in majority. So I have to give some advise to each class and satisfy them. Since I have no time to go in detail and as I have to attend another meeting at Bowringpet at 6 p.m., I will make a very short speech to-day and try to meet you again ~~with you again~~ within a short period. First of all I will deal with the Mines Labourers. In India Congress was formed with the main object of helping the poor labourers and agriculturists. At present there are some discussions regarding the settlement between labourers and capitalists going on in British India. In order to redress the grievances of the labour class Congress is trying to form some associations, Labour Unions in Bombay and Madras. We should have one in the Mines area, with the kind approval of the Mysore Govt: I think some of the people, like Mr. Giri wanted to establish some organisation in Mines area some time back and his attempts proved futile as he was prohibited by Government to enter the Mining area. It is not possible to continue the same now, because we Congress have gained in strength. We were feeling great difficulty in conducting such meetings in Goribidanur and other places in our State about eight months back. Even if we conduct the meetings people were afraid to attend meetings - only about 40 or 50 members were attending. Now people are attending Congress meetings in thousands and lakhs without any fear. So also the Mining authorities and the Government should give some freedom and liberty to the labour class to attend such meetings. Should they be pleased to allow the coolies to attend the meetings, it is safe for both the parties - labourers on one side and Government and the capitalists on the other side. There is no harm in starting Unions and allied Associations in this area. The labourers should get suitable wages for the work they turn out from the Capitalists

and also work hard honestly and faithfully to the satisfaction of the employers. When we speak about the grievances of the employees we have to consider over the difficulties of the employers also.

Some of you here might misunderstand me when I say a few words about the evils of drink. It is very important subject and the prohibition of sale of liquiors is one of the ideals of the Congress. You might have heard about the introduction of the Prohibition scheme in the Salem District after the Congress Ministry. They are going to introduce the same in Cuddapha and Chittoor Districts this yeaf and in all the Districts with in a course of 4 or 5 years. I do not find any reason why we should not follow in our State. Please excuse me when I ask you not to drink. I ask you not to drink not only for your own betterment but also for the betterment of your families. If you succeed in killing the demon of drink or driving away from our State you will enjoy a happy and peaceful life. I will deal with this matter in detail on some other occasions when I meet you again.

I have heard of frequent strikes in the Mines. You should not do it in hurry without deep consideration and unanimity. If you have strength you will succeed in your attempts. Now I will deal with your economic problem. If you are in need of money you go to a Marwadi for a loan and pay him an enormous interest, which you will not be in a position to repay, loan with such high rate of interest. It is the evil of drink which makes you to go in for a loan without considering the high rate of interest which you have to pay. This sort of interest should be stopped and I request the people not to go in for loans of such high rate of interest and Government should take suitable measures to stop lending money at such high rate of interest. I think the Government have enquired into the matter once with futile results. Therefore I repeatedly request you to have an organisation and work with unity.

In order to improve your standard of life you should make your ladies at home to work on Charkas and thereby earn some thing. I had an idea to start a Khadder industry in the Mines area while I was District Board President, but I gave up that idea after knowing that the Mines area is under the direct control of the Sanitary Board and not the Kolar District Board. If you consider all these matters deeply and work hard for freedom you will attain Swaraj very early. Take a lesson from British India and have Congress Administration in our State also. If you are very keen in having Congress meetings in the Mining area, you should observe and follow the cult of Non-Violence very strictly. You should not get excited or aggrevated even though you are put into troubles. If you preach the cult of Non-violence to your friends who could not attend the meeting to-day, I am sure of your success.

Now I will speak to the ryots. We had an idea to address the people of Bethamangala and Sundarapalya and Bowringpet. We have to cancel the programme owing to the prevailence of Plague at Bethamangala and other places. We will try to go to these places some time later. Most important things for ryots are reduction of Kandayam and debts. Fortunately or unfortunately we people in the Mysore State are paying more Kandayam than British India and especially ryots of Kolar District are paying more. It is for the reduction of Kandayam and debts we Congress are agitating from the begining. I have already told you about the evils of drink which also applies to some of the ryots who are addicted to this bad habit. If there is a School in one village there may not be Schools in ten villages. There are no proper roads and medical aid in the rural areas though half of the revenue of the State is paid by the ryots. People in the Cities and Towns are enjoying at the cost of Villagers. So the Congress in British India are working for the uplift of rural areas and we also should copy them. Just as Congress Ministers are working in British India for the benefit of the people there, we also work for the benefit of

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of the poor ryots here. If you are sincere and earnest about your betterment and if you are very particular about your getting food to eat and clothes to wear, and proper education for your children and good medical aid, you should strengthen Congress by becoming its members in large number.

I wish to say a few words to the youths. I think the youths are responsible for to-days meeting and we have visited and held this meeting owing to their pressure. Let not the people misunderstand me when I say that old people - between 40 and 50 cannot come forward and work for Congress owing to various reasons. I expect much from the youths. People like me, between 30 and 40 will have wavering ideas. So I hesitated to conduct to-days' meeting in the Mines area. I thought that there would be some hindrance to the understanding arrived at recently between Congress and Government, if Government had issued prohibitory orders and If we had violated. I request the youths to come forward in large number and face the situation boldly and courageously. Let them bear in mind the ideals of Congress - Ahimsa and Truth, and convey this message to your friends. Youths should take part in the Temperance movement and Humanitarian Association, which are working in your Mines area. I have got some more things to say, but owing to want of time, I have to stop here and I will give you some more advise when I meet you again.

Congress is one of the great organisation in India, which opened the eyes of the masses. It commands good respect and honour in the World. Mahatma Gandhi wants to see that India gets freedom and he has also given some hints to our Maharaja and Mysore Government to give some freedom to the people of Mysore State as early as possible. If we cannot get freedom during his life time, it is impossible to get freedom afterwards; so I request you all once again to support Congress and work for freedom vigorously. Please excuse me for having inconvenienced you and for having detained you such a long time as this. We have to undergo some difficulties if we want to enjoy happiness. Now Mr. Thimma Reddy will address and I request you all to hear

hear him patiently. I need not introduce him to you because he is a well known person. He is a leading Advocate in Goribidnur near Viduraswatha.

(Mr. K. Chengalraya Reddy was garlanded).

Mr. Thimma Reddy spoke in Kannada to the following effect :-

"Ladies and gentlmen, I cannot address you in Telugu or Tamil. I will speak in Kannada which you can all understand clearly. While we were in Bowringpet some of my friends told me that Government would issue an order under Section 39, if we conduct the meetings in the Mining area. I am not afraid of Section 39. I would have violated if there had been any such order. But for Mr. Chengalraya Reddy, I would have conducted to-day's meeting in the place where it was fixed with all the oppositions. I do not like to witness another unhappy incident like Viduraswatham incident. Before we do anything we should have strength to do it and I want to know how many Volunteers in your place? There will be no freedom without sacrifice. But at the same time you should follow the ideals of Congress - Ahimsa taught by Mahatma Gandhi. If the youths are very particular in conducting future meetings in the Sanitary Board area, there would be thousand Volunteers in the roll when I visit your place next time. I request my labour friends also to co-operate with the youths for this object. Just as Dharmaraja intervened when Bhimasena got wild against Dhuryodhana when Droupadi was put to shame and pacified him, Mr. Chengalaraya Reddy pulled me to-day when I wanted to conduct this meeting in the Mines area. Government is not bold enough to issue an order under Section 39 against a person who is born and brought up in Mysore State. If there had been any such order it would have been a new era in the history of Mysore. Owing to your kind co-operation and support we Congress ~~would~~ were able to make as much progress during the short period of 8 months as in British India. Congress in British India took fifty-three years but we have taken only 8 months. Our success should be attributed to the support and strength we got from the Village folk. You might

You might have heard about the unhappy incident at Viduraswatham, where Ladies faced the situation very boldly and courageously. Some of them went to the extent of approaching the Deputy Commissioner Mr. Appaji Gowda and asked him to open fire at them. Such is the spirit of our Ladies. You might have read in News papers that the Havildar gave evidence in the enquiry committee that the ladies also hurled stones on Police. I wanted to see that we should conduct our meetings in future in the Mines area without any fear. When I was a student, my Professor once asked me whether it was advisable to give all the Mines in India to the hands of the Foreigners. I told him that it should not be given till we get ability to control the Mines. In Nepal, Foreigners are not allowed to extract gold. Most of you do not know much of gold was extracted from our country and how much profit the foreigners got. Hundred crores of rupees worth of gold was taken away from our country. We are getting alms of 2 percent Royalty from the Mining authorities. The contract between the Mining Company and Mysore Government terminated in the year 1934 and I do not know on whose consent Government extended their contract. Government did not consult either the members of the Legislative Council or the public in this matter. I do not know on what grounds the contract was extended, when we are in a position to control the work of the Mines. I do not know for how long they have extended. (one of the audience shouted 40 years). Are the Mining authorities paying suitable wages to the coolies who are shedding their blood and work at the risk of their lives in the Mines. The share holders of the Mines in London are enjoying at the cost of the poor coolies. We should enquire into the matter and regulate the wages paid to the coolies at present. I can assure the labourers that double the wages what they earn now would be paid if we Congress get some power - Swaraj. Let them not work in the Mines if we do not pay them more than what they get now. We have got brains and intelligence to work and control the Mines now. It is an accepted fact. Sir ..

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Sir M. Visveswarayya also said once that his Assistant Engineer was more intelligent than an expert in a foreign country. When we have got persons with better brains and intelligence in our country I do not find any reason why the foreigners should have control over this Mines. I feel it as a disgrace. In order to rectify all these matters, I want you to have an organisation. Unite together and fight peacefully. Follow the cult of Non-violence and truth and do not retaliate by hurling stones if you are put to any trouble. If you form an Association or Union as said by Mr. Chengalraya Reddy, you will have the support of at least 20 thousand labourers. We mean bringing these facts before the Government very shortly. I do not like to see you go on with your strikes very frequently. I am not for strikes since it affects the interest of the labourers. First have an organisation and learn the discipline. We can able to redress the grievances if you have got unity and strength. I request you all to convey these messages to your other friends, who have not attended this meeting. Work with unity and strength, you will surely succeed in your attempt. I wish and pray for your success."

One Krishnappa presented purse for the Viduraswatham relief fund collected from the public. He requested the public to contribute for the relief fund liberally when Congress volunteers approach them.

The meeting terminated at about 6-20 p.m. with Congress slogans.

It is learnt that some of the officials working in the Mines have attended the meeting.

SUBMITTED.

N. Kannappa Mudaliar,
Stenographer,
S.B., C.I.D. 31/5/38

"Copy"

Special Superintendent of Police,
Kolar Gold Field.

19

4103/ CS 93-37-166

(17)

D 8/6/38

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report dated 2nd June 1938 and the personal instructions given to you by the First Member of Council, I am desired to enquire whether you sent for Messrs. K. Changalraya Reddy and N.C.Thimma Reddy and other local men and advised them not to extend their activities or make any speeches in the K.G.F. area. If, in spite of this, they persist and interfere in that area you may take necessary steps to exclude them from the said area ~~if~~ in case the situation so requires it.

Yours sincerely,

6/6

6-6

G. Sundara Rao, Esq., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
K o l a r.

19A

(16

8th June 1938

4103/ C.S. 93-37-160

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report dated 2nd June 1938 and the personal instructions given to you by the First Member of Council, I am desired to enquire whether you sent for Messrs. K. Changalraya Reddy and N.C. Thimma Reddy and other local men and advised them not to extend their activities or make any speeches in the Kolar Gold Field area. If, in spite of this, they persist and interfere in that area you may take necessary steps to exclude them from the said area in case the situation so requires it.

Yours sincerely,

G. Sundara Rao, Esqr., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar.

Confidential.

D. O. No. C.C.12/37-38.

Encs. Two.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
No. 8544

20 CB 2813

CB 95-37-163

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT,

Dated Kolar, the 7th June *193* 8.

SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL
12 JUNE 1938
No. 9483

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL
JUN 11 1938
No. 9362

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my Confidential D.O. letter No:C. C. 12/37-38 dated 2nd June 1938, (Camp) Bangalore, submitting to the notice of Government, proceedings of a congress meeting held at Parandapalli, outside the Mining area, &c., I enclose herein, for the kind information of Government, a copy of report dated -- 5th June 1938 from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields, together with a copy of its enclosure, and to state that I have instructed the Special Superintendent of Police and the Special Magistrate, Kolar Gold Fields, to closely watch further developments and keep in touch with me, for action being -- taken in the matter. So far, I have found no necessity to make use of any powers. I am also in touch with the leaders in Kolar Gold Fields, whom I have found to be amenable to advice.

Yours sincerely,

I & II Section
Desai

Ltr 10.6.38

To

H. V. Ramasvami, Esq., M.A., B.L.,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

13/6/38

13-6-38

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Copy of letter dated 5th June 1938 from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., to the Inspector General of Police in - - Mysore, Bangalore.

In continuation of my letter dated the 3rd June regarding congress activities in the Kolar Gold Fields, I write to inform you that no meeting will be held in K.G.F., on the 6th instant. It is further learnt that in all probability the Mysore Congress may not interfere in K.G.F. In any case, a close watch is maintained and arrangements have been made to obtain prior intimation in the event of the congress arranging for a meeting in Kolar Gold Fields.

Copy of the above with a copy of my letter dated the 3rd June is submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar, for information.

Sd. C. I. Machia,
Superintendent of Police, K.G.F.

"Copy"

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Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

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Copy of letter dated 3rd June 1938 from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields to the Inspector General of Police in Mysore, Bangalore.

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I am in receipt of your letter dated the 2nd June regarding the congress meeting at Robertsonpet on the 30th May. I did not send you prior intimation of this meeting as it was decided in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner not to prohibit the meeting. Regarding another such meeting on the 6th instant, enquiries go to show that at present it is only a rumour and nothing definite is known. It is learnt that a congress meeting is to be held at Malur on the 6th instant. At present it is believed that the rumour regarding the holding of a meeting here on the 6th instant, has gained currency owing to the fact that Mr. V. V. Giri, Labour Minister, Madras is visiting the Bisanatham Mines on the 4th instant. Information is being collected and immediate intimation will be given to you as soon as anything definite is known.

Copy submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar.

Sd. C. I. Machia,
D.S.Police, K.G.F.

5-6-1938.

"Copy"

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

Strictly Confidential.

D. O. No. C.C.12/37-38.

Encs. One.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT,

Dated Kolar, the 8th June *1938.*

CS 93-37-169

Dear Sir,

I enclose for favour of information of Government, copy of a letter from the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields dated 7th June 1938, which I received late at night on the same day. I went to Kolar Gold Fields to-day and collected information personally about the Kammasandra meeting. I learnt that the Patel of Kammasandra disapproved of his son's conduct - and drove away the small gathering in the village collected by - H. M. Balappa and M. Venkata Rao of Bowringpet. Kammasandra is a village included in the Sanitary Board area and is about four miles from the Mining area. The incident does not deserve any notice.

2. Regarding the second para of the enclosed letter, it is true that some of the outside congress men were trying to induce some unimportant people of the Mining area to invite them for holding congress meetings in some of the villages of the --- Sanitary Board area in the first instance and then for holding a meeting in the Mining area itself. But the contractors and merchants resident in the Mining area and in Robertsonpet were solidly against the importation of congress ideas in the Mining area and actively discouraged the advances made by outside congress men. - In pursuance of the policy which I had set myself to follow in my D.O. letter No:C.C.12/37-38 dated 2nd June 1938, I attempted -- negotiations with the principal congress man of this District -- Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddi. With the good offices of Mr. O. V. Rajagopal, I was able to secure the presence of Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddi in the Government Guest House this afternoon. I had

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plain talk with him. I explained to him that as Government have been scrupulously observing the terms of the compromise recently arrived at with the Mysore congress, it was up to them also to observe their terms. The conditions in the Mining area are quite different from those of the rural parts of the District. Any attempt by the congress to set up agitation in this area may result in breaches of peace and tranquility far beyond the power of their leaders to control. In these circumstances, I could not view their attempts in this area with any degree of complaisancy and I may have to use the powers vested in me in the interests of law and order. The consequences would be disasterous both to the congress and other persons who may be supporting them. In the meantime, the unsophisticated labourers would be the victims. The contractors, the merchants and bankers would all inevitably suffer. I therefore advised him not to touch either the Mining area or the Sanitary Board area. I am glad to report that I found Mr. Chengalaraya Reddi reasonable. He saw the point in my arguments and assured me that the congress party in Kolar have independently come to the same conclusion as myself in regard to this area and that he would tell his people not to interfere with this area as long as the terms of the compromise with Government lasted. He admitted that some of the more hot-headed and enthusiastic members of the party were indiscreet in regard to this area but that he would call them off. He also suggested to me sending for Mr. K. P. Raman, the President of the District Congress Committee and advising him similarly. I shall of course do this at the earliest opportunity. In the meantime, he assured me that the congress party have definitely dropped designs of convening meetings etc., in the Mining and Sanitary Board area.

3. From other sources also I am informed that there is no idea of forcing the K.G.F. people to invite congress men as they are afraid of evoking hostility against the congress from the prosperous merchants and contractors of this area who want

law and order for pursuing their ordinary avocations undisturbed by strikes etc.

4. I have not however relaxed the watchful eye on this area and am in close touch with any possible developments. The Special Magistrate and the Special Superintendent of Police have also been requested to be watchful. I consider that we are definitely out of danger so far as this area is concerned, not because Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddi -- has given these assurances, but because, of the local feeling which is definitely against congress propaganda. I am doing everything to quietly foster the public feeling against congress activities in this area. I learn that the Mining authorities have translated the Dewan's speech into Tamil and are printing 15,000 copies for wide distribution in the lines. Thus there is no need at present to resort to prohibitory action under the law.

Yours sincerely,

SECOND MEMBER, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,
12 JUNE 1938
No. 9489

To
DEWAN'S OFFICE
13 JUNE 1938
No. 8543

H. V. Ramasvami, Esq., M.A., B.L.,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
(Camp) MYSORE.

Sub for perusal
I & II Members
Dewan

10.6.38
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13-6-38

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D.O. letter dated 7th June 1938 from the Special Superintendent of Police, K.G.F., to the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

A congress meeting was held in Kammasandra village last night under the chairmanship of K. V, Ramappa, the son of Patel Munisami Gowda of that village. There was a very small gathering. The meeting was addressed by H. M. Balappa and M. Venkata Rao of Bowringpet. Detailed report on the meeting will follow.

A rumour is current that Messrs: Chengalaraya Reddi and Thimma Reddi will address meetings in some of the villages of the Sanitary Board area on the 9th instant and hold meetings in the Kolar Gold Fields area on the 11th instant. The rumour is being verified and early intimation will be sent to you.

"Copy"

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

ICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

C.C.12/37-38.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
KOLAR DISTRICT,

Dated Kolar, the 10th June 1938.

Dear Sir,

I have received your D.O. letter No:4103/C.B.93-37-160 dated 8th June 1938, enquiring if action has been taken by me in regard to sending for Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddi, etc., I hope by this time you have received my D.O. No:C.C.12/37-38 dated 8th June 1938 giving details of my meeting with Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddi. I sent for Mr. K. Pattabhiraman, the President of the District Congress Committee to-day and had a similar plain talk with him. He told me that it was his personal opinion also that the Mysore Congress party would be ill-advised in touching the Mining and Sanitary Board area for propaganda work in view of the labour conditions there. He told me that he had requested Mr. K. Chengalaraya Reddi to put the matter before the Working Committee in Mysore on 9th June 1938 and press for a working convention from that body not to allow the congress party members to interfere with the Mining and Sanitary Board areas. He seemed hopeful that such a convention would be passed though there may not be a resolution to that effect for the reason that the Working Committee may not like to exclude this area from its operation altogether by means of a written resolution. In any case, he said that he would request the Bowringpet Congress people not to interfere with the Mining area or the villages comprising the Sanitary Board area. I think this assurance is satisfactory for the present.

2. I took this occasion to tell him that in the several meetings held in this District, some members of the congress party have talked in a manner savouring of inducement for launching a no-tax campaign. He assured me that no responsible leaders of his party have ever talked in this manner and it is likely that

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some irregular members might have exceeded the bounds of --- caution in their enthusiasm. He said that he would personally influence them not to talk like that. He also assured me that his party in Kolar will not invite outside congress men for propaganda work but that if some of them do come of their own accord from the other side of the border, he found it too delicate to suggest to them that they were not welcome here - or to prevent them from talking. But he assured me that as - far as possible he would discourage them from taking part in the propaganda work of the congress party in this District. - I have prepared a list of places where meetings have been held in the last month. I find from the speeches that much of their matter is about the Viduraswatha incident and of the compromise arrived at with Government. I am going to many of the Taluks in this month to assess the result of the meetings of the previous month. I will meet the important men of these parts -- before I formulate the policy for handling the situation. I will give the result of my observations in the third week of this month. For the present, the congress men seem to have concentrated on the submission of proposals for the Reforms - Committee which is to meet on the 4th of July. Most of the -- important men being engaged in this work, I do not expect many meetings in the current month.

3. I am expediting the proposals to be submitted to Government for extending the operation of Sec.17 of the Mysore Mines Act to all the Sanitary Board villages. My proposals will be laid before Government before the 16th of this month. I request that speedy orders may be passed in this behalf so that effective measures can be taken against outsiders from - interfering with this area for propaganda work should they ever think of doing so now or at any future time.

Yours sincerely,

Sundaram

To

H. V. Ramasvami, Esq., M.A., B.L.,
Offg. Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
(Camp) Mysore.